PHD NSWC Public Affairs Office

Jeanne Schick, Public Affairs Officer (805) 228-8014, (805) 228-6150 SchickMJ@phdnswc.navy.mil



March 15, 2001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Two NAVSEA Warfare Centers Reach Assumption of Responsibility for Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI)

(March 15, 2001; Port Hueneme, Calif.)

Transition to the NMCI is one of NAVSEA's "Critical Few" initiatives, and two activities recently reached the first major NMCI milestone. NAVSEA Port Hueneme (the Port Hueneme Division of the Naval Surface Warfare Center) made the transition on 21 February, and NAVSEA Crane did the same two days later.

In partnership with the Information Strike Force (ISF), which is the collective name for EDS and its partner companies, the two sites reached the Assumption of Responsibility (AOR) milestone, where the ISF takes over management of the as-is IT infrastructure. Included in the transition are Port Hueneme's detachments in Louisville, San Diego, and Virginia Beach, and Crane's detachments in Fallbrook, CA, and Hawthorn, NV. Over the next six months the ISF will continue the transition process, bringing in new computers, building a new infrastructure, and establishing Navy-wide security and management policies. Both sites expect to complete the transition process and enter NMCI steady-state operations this coming fall.

Port Hueneme and Crane were selected as early adopters, part of the first phase of the move to NMCI, due to their well-managed infrastructure and up-to-date assessment of technology assets data. Joe Cipriano, PEO IT for NMCI, suggested that Port Hueneme and Crane would be good models for accomplishing AOR at other activities.

"NMCI improves the effectiveness and efficiency with which NAVSEA Port Hueneme delivers IT services. We are excited about the opportunity to bring all of our IT assets under one umbrella," said Charles Giacchi, Port Hueneme Executive Director.

The contract will provide global connectivity to Navy activities, with secure, seamless data transfers from end to end. As a result, the Navy's IT infrastructure will fade into the background and become as reliable, convenient, and unobtrusive as the telecommunication infrastructure is today. Navy commands will be able to concentrate on the substance of their work, without worrying about how the data will move or what special efforts need to be made to ensure its quick delivery.

The initial objective upon reaching AOR was for the transition to be absolutely transparent to Port Hueneme's users. This has been successfully met, and the command is starting to look toward the enhancements which NMCI will bring. The engineers and logisticians at Port Hueneme will soon be benefiting from new computers, standardized software suites, and uniform Navy-wide IT policies that will allow them to sit at any NMCI desktop anywhere in the world and access their information as if they were sitting at their own desk.

"Our IT network is vital to our mission which is to support the fleet. The less dollars and attention we have to pay to managing the technology information infrastructure the more attention we can pay to our primary customer, the fleet," said Captain James Phillips, Commander NAVSEA Port Hueneme.

Duane Embree, Crane Executive Director, discussing the changes with NMCI,

stated "We recognize that there will be hard issues that we have to address together as we embark upon this relationship."

At Crane, a "Work for Private Parties" agreement is in place which will minimize any impact to customers until the complete ISF team is operational and while existing IT infrastructure contracts are novated. The agreement ensures the seamless operation of Help Desk functions, field service (PC repair), network connectivity, email, DNS server administration, and firewall administration.

The in-place Change Management Plan will provide a blueprint for keeping Crane's employees appraised of what the ISF is planning and how it will affect them. ISF will ensure that the information systems at Crane remain secure as they are upgraded and will provide all IT support to the newest MILCON project, an Air Electronic Warfare facility.

"Both parties - Crane and EDS - are committed to working together within the constraints and obligations of the contract to ensure its success," stated Captain Scott Wetter, Commander, NAVSEA Crane.

The transition to NMCI for Crane and Port Hueneme, reflect NAVSEA's commitment to truly transform itself in fielding an information system of speed, flexibility and security with the goal of Keeping America's Navy #1 in the World.

#END#